



Paper No. 4

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**APR 09 2002**

**OFFICE OF PETITIONS  
DECISION GRANTING  
PETITION**

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In re Application of:  
Bell, *et al.*  
Application No. 09/997,392  
Filed: November 28, 2001  
Attorney Docket No. 115/453

This is a decision on the February 15, 2002 petition under 37 C.F.R. §1.10(c) requesting that the above-identified application be accorded a filing date of November 28, 2001, rather than the presently accorded filing date of November 29, 2001.

Petitioner alleges that the application was deposited in Express Mail service on November 28, 2001. In support, the petition is accompanied by a copy of Express Mail receipt no. EL562416320US (the same Express Mail number found on the original application papers located in the official file) showing a "date in" of November 28, 2001.

In view of the above, *this petition is **granted**.*

This application will be returned to Initial Patent Examination Division for correction of the filing date to November 28, 2001.

Telephone inquiries concerning this matter may be directed to the undersigned in the Office of Petitions at (703) 306-5593.

Scott M. Ledford  
Attorney  
Office of Petitions  
Office of the Deputy Assistant Commissioner  
for Patent Examination Policy